(ii) Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) is in operation since 1979-80 with objective of developing towns with population below 5 lakh (1991 Census). Under this scheme 138 towns from North-Eastern States have been covered so far and Rs. 4947.92 lakh were released as central assistance and State Governments have reported expenditure of Rs. 6013.66 lakh. State-wise number of towns covered, Central assistance released and expenditure reported are given in the Annexure-I to IV [*See* Appendix 203 Annexure No. 13]

(iii) Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) was launched in March, 1994 to assist State Governments to implement Water supply Programme in small towns having population less than 20000 as per 1991 census. Detailed information is given in Annexure-I to IV [*See* Appendix I to IV Annexure No. 13]

(b) and (c) Under the scheme of Lump sum provision for the benefit of projects/schemes for North-Eastern Region including Sikkim during the current financial year Rs. 286.56 lakh were released. Details are given in Annexure-I to IV [*See* Appendix 203 Annexure No. 13]

Under the scheme of IDSMT during the current financial year 11 towns of Assam State have been covered and Central Assistance amounting to Rs. 314.84 lakh has been released. The town-wise details are given in the Annexure-I to IV [*See* Appendix 203 Annexure No. 13]

Under the AUWSP scheme Rs. 448.45 lakh have been released for the State of Assam. Details are given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix 203 Annexure No. 13]

Valmiki Ambedkar Housing Scheme

†1897. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced Valmiki Ambedkar Housing Scheme for the people living Below Poverty Line in the slums; and

(b) if so, the amount allocated to Chhattisgarh under this scheme during the current financial year?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme called Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAAY) on 2nd December, 2001 for construction/up-gradation of shelters and toilets seats for the urban slum dwellers living below poverty line (BPL).

(b) During the current Financial year, 2004-2005, Central subsidy of Rs. 343.00 lakh has been tentatively allocated to Chhattisgarh.

Implementation of Poverty Alleviation Programmes

1898. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the fund utilization on implementation of existing and newly launched programmes targeted at reducing the poverty levels across the country since the beginning of Tenth Five Year Plan in 2002;

(b) the impact of these programmes on poverty alleviation;

(c) whether Government have made any changes in the targets fixed for poverty alleviation for the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) With a view to ameliorate the conditions of the urban poor, and reducing the urban poverty in the country, Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation is implementing a Centrally Sponsored urban poverty alleviation programme namely Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) on All India basis *w.e.f.* 1.12.1997. The Scheme is continued in the Tenth five Year Plan also. During the Tenth Plan period, the year-wise expenditure for the first two years of the Plan, under SJSRY is as follows:—

Year	2002-03	2003-04
Fund utilized under SJSRY (Rs. in crore)	100.92	100.74